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## *\$1 Million PW Ransom Raised by Cushing*

CPYRGHT

Boston, Jan. 10 (UPI)—Cardinal Cushing, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Boston, said tonight that he raised \$1 million last month to help ransom Cuban prisoners captured in the abortive Bay of Pigs invasion of April 1961.

The Cardinal said he was the "so-called 'mysterious donor'" who helped make up the sum of \$2.9 million in cash demanded by Cuban Premier Fidel Castro in addition to the millions of dollars of medicines and food collected for the prisoners' return.

In Washington, a Justice Department spokesman confirmed that it was Cardinal Cushing whom Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy called to obtain the \$1 million pledge.

The prelate said he decided to identify himself because of rumors about the gift.

He said that as a sponsor and adviser to the Cuban Families Committee he was contacted when the ransom attempts got under way.

"I immediately pledged the sum of \$1 million to be collected by me prior to the end of January . . . The sum I promised was given by donors in many parts of the United States and in some parts of Latin America. They are all interested in the many good works for which I accept responsibility in Latin American countries," the Cardinal said.